GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3858
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2001
EXPLORATION OF GAS AND OIL IN RAJATHAN
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made in the field of exploration and drilling of petroleum and natural gas in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) whether the reserves of oil and gas are found in the Thar desert along the border;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to promote exploration and drilling of oil in new areas of the Thar desert in Rajasthan;

(d) the areas in Rajasthan awarded to the companies for oil exploration under the new policy alongwith the names of such companies, location-wise;

(e) whether the drilling has since been commenced; and

(f) if so, the details of progress made?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) to (f): A Statement is annexed.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Unstarrred Question No.3858 for answer on 22.3.2001

(a): The achievements made in exploration and production of hydrocarbons in Rajasthan by the two National Oil Companies viz. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and the private /Joint Venture Companies in the last three years i.e. 1997-2000 are given below:

By ONGC:

During the period, a total of 1203 Ground Line Kilometre(GLK) of 2D seismic data was acquired and five exploratory wells and one development well were drilled, of which three wells were gas bearing.

By OIL:

During the period, four exploratory wells and three development wells were drilled, of which three wells were gas bearing.

By Private/Joint Venture Companies:

During the period a total of 1410 Line Kilometre of 2D seismic survey was carried outand two exploratory wells were drilled, of which one discovered oil. The discovery, however, is not considered commercial by the contractor on a `stand-alone basis`.

(b): Exploratory efforts put in by the two NOCs viz. ONGC and OIL, have resulted in establishment of in-place hydrocarbons to the tune 11.34 BCM of gas and 14.6 MMT of heavy oil in Rajasthan.

(c): During the terminal two years of IX Plan, i.e. 2000-01 and 2001-02, ONGC plans to acquire 400 GLK of seismic data and drill one development well in Rajasthan. In the current year OIL has drilled one exploratory well which was proved to be gas bearing.Moreover, as part of its policy to augment the exploratory efforts in the State, the Government of India has offered four blocks in the first round and one block in the second round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) for bidding in the the State of Rajasthan.

(d) No block has been awarded to companies under NELP in the State of Rajasthan so far.

(e) & (f): Do not arise in view of (d) above.